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UP-COMING EVENTS

October 18
World Water Monitoring Day
www.worldwatermonitoring.org

October 22
Make a Difference Day
www.makeadifferenceday.com

November 19
National Family Volunteer Day
www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nfvd/

A Note from our Executive Director

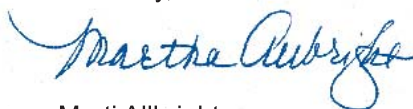
Wow! What a busy few months! It was such an honor to recognize our 2005 National Award winners who were announced in August. It's always such a pleasure to meet and celebrate some of our country's most outstanding volunteers. It was a great event and we're already planning for next year!

Just a week before our awards ceremony, I spent National Public Lands Day working with Jeff Brune, one of our winners, in Anchorage, Alaska at the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center. Our volunteer group planted a fire-wise garden and transplanted trees, and later in the afternoon, I was able to release a rehabilitated bald eagle back into the wild.

October will continue to be busy with emphasis on our Take Pride in America Schools program. We will be actively recruiting schools across the country to participate and you can help us by getting information to schools in your community.

I'm looking forward to this next phase of Take Pride—teaching our youth how they can contribute to our public lands and continuing their growth as good stewards.

Sincerely,



Marti Allbright



Secretary Norton and Marti Allbright (far left) present the Spirit of Take Pride Award to Kym Murphy, with Desiree Sayle (far right).

Clint Eastwood PSAs

Watch for our public service announcements with national spokesman Clint Eastwood – coming to a television station in your town soon.

Please report any sightings of the PSAs, including date, time and station (if possible) to us via email, so we can keep track of where our distribution efforts have been most successful.

Thanks!

2005 Take Pride National Award Winners Honored

At the end of September, our National Award winners gathered in Washington, DC to receive their 2005 Take Pride in America National Award. Over 140 recipients, representing twenty five groups from sixteen different states, gathered to celebrate their accomplishments.

The activities began on Thursday, September 29, 2005 with a White House tour followed by a guided tour of the city's most famous monuments. Later, a reception was held in their honor at the White House Visitor Center, sponsored by Unilever, one of Take Pride's Charter Partners. Honorees and their guests mingled with Take Pride Partners and were welcomed by representatives of Unilever and the Department of the Interior. The guests enjoyed a preview of the new Public Service Announcements featuring Clint Eastwood, National Spokesperson for Take Pride in America.



Members of the C&O Canal Federal Volunteer Program gather on stage after accepting their award from Secretary Norton, Marti Allbright & Desiree Sayle.



Award Winners enjoying breakfast on the roof of the Department of the Interior building before the Awards Ceremony.

The next morning began with a rooftop breakfast at the Department of the Interior and spectacular views of Washington, DC. Honorees then moved downstairs to the auditorium where they were greeted by Marti Allbright, Executive Director of the Take Pride program and a congratulatory video from Clint Eastwood. Next, they heard remarks from Desiree Sayle, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the USA Freedom Corps.

Secretary Gale A. Norton spoke to the recipients before presenting the awards to each group. Secretary Norton praised the volunteers saying, "You are Americans who are living their citizenship; patriots who are giving of themselves to make this Nation a brighter place...who rise above the essential duties of citizenship. You freely give your time. You willingly give your toil. You make this Nation great."

Winners were then invited on stage to receive their awards and have their photo taken with Secretary Norton, Marti Allbright and Desiree Sayle.

Congratulations to our 2005 Award Winners!!

Federal Land Manager Awards

Jeff Brune, Bureau of Land Management
Mark H. Woods, National Park Service
Marsha Kearney, U.S. Forest Service
Valerie J. Curley, Bureau of Reclamation
Mark J. Musaus, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Individual Awards

Darryll and Terri Wade
Dona Horan

School Awards

Deer Creek Elementary School
Rock Springs High School Environmental Students
Des Moines Area Community College, Biology 172

Non-profit Awards

Continental Divide Trail Alliance
Morris Land Conservancy's Partners for Parks Programs
The National Public Lands Day Program

Public/Private Partnership Awards

Friends of Anahuac Refuge
San Geronio Wilderness Association
Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary Restoration Project

Corporate Awards

Tauk World Discovery
Toyota Motor Sales, USA

Youth Award

Girl Scout Troop 187 and 506, Heart of Ohio

Outstanding Take Pride Partner Award

America the Beautiful Fund

Local Government Award

City of Colorado Springs Parks Department

State Volunteer Program Awards

Take Pride in Florida
Texas Master Naturalist Program

Federal Volunteer Program Awards

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park
Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program

Spirit of Take Pride Award

Kym Murphy, The Walt Disney Company

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

2005 National Public Lands Day Across America

From Valley
vania to
Alaska,
Annual
Public
(NPLD)

again a huge
volunteers came
clean up and care for

NEETF, a TPIA Charter Partner, sponsors NPLD with the help of Toyota Motor Sales, USA. Living up to this year's theme to "Lend A Hand to Help Improve & Preserve Public Lands", 100,000 volunteers gathered at nearly 800 projects in all 50 states on September 24, 2005.



Forge, Pennsyl-
Anchorage,
the 12th
National
Lands Day
was once

success, as
out in droves to help
America's public lands.

VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Lynn Scarlett, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, was at Valley Forge National Historical Park to lend a hand. A wide range of projects gave volunteers a special hands-on opportunity to contribute to one of America's most historically significant public places.

Superintendent Michael A. Caldwell announced the winner of the Name That Trail contest, renaming the park's Multi-Use Trail to Joseph Plumb Martin Trail. After the ceremony, work groups and other participants took part in educational activities, hikes, and several preservation projects throughout the park.

SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

Ninety five students, ranging from Boy and Girl Scouts to college students, joined National Park Service staff in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. They worked diligently to help care for one of California's treasures. Participants chose from one of four projects in the park, trail maintenance, brush clearance around a historic race track, litter pick up and native plant restoration.



Volunteers register to help at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Take Pride in America Executive Director Marti Allbright traveled all the way to Anchorage, Alaska to "Lend a Hand," as she joined Jeff Brune, director Campbell Creek Science Center, and approximately 100 local volunteers in celebration of National Public Lands Day. Volunteers engaged in activities ranging from trail maintenance to the re-vegetation of two WWII Airstrips. Afterwards, volunteers and other community members took part in a variety of activities at the science center's open house.



Marti Allbright and Jeff Brune help plant a firewise garden demonstration area.

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



Las Vegas Volunteers worked to pick up litter at three sites in the southern Nevada desert.

Thanks to the Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program, volunteers in southern Nevada once again showed their commitment to improving the area's public lands by participating in two consecutive weekend projects for NPLD, held September 17 and 24, 2005. More than 300 volunteers picked up a total of 128 cubic yards of litter at three separate clean-up events. The events included sites at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area and Lake Mead's Hemenway Harbor.

"In total, community volunteers contributed nearly 1,500 hours over the past two Saturdays to beautify our public lands for the benefit of all Nevadans," said Nancy Flagg, director of the Public Lands Institute. "On behalf of our federal partners, we extend our thanks to the volunteers and sponsors for their hard work and community involvement."

BUREAU SPOTLIGHTS

Lake Berryessa Cleaned Up at Youth Campout

On August 5-7, 2005 personnel from the Bureau of Reclamation's Lake Berryessa Field Office (LBFO) worked with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ukiah office, California Department of Forestry, and the Napa County Sheriffs Department to host the 2005 Cortina Rancheria Wintun Youth Environmental Campout.

The campout lasted four days and brought together over thirty California Tribes. Activities included workshops on water conservation, native language, basket weaving, canoeing, flint knapping, bow and arrow making, animal tracking, and plant identification.

New to this year's event was a Take Pride in America cleanup, where members from all the tribes worked together with Reclamation employees to remove and help maintain the shorelines of Lake Berryessa. All told, over 35 bags of trash were removed, making the park and shoreline cleaner for future users.



Campout participants take a well-deserved break following a successful cleanup effort.

Reclamation Volunteers, Mountain Bikers clear the way for Loop Trail

On September 3, 2005 the Folsom-Auburn Trail Riders Action (FATRAC), a mountain biking club in northern California, organized volunteers to assist with clearing a large, fallen oak tree, removing star thistle and pruning overgrowth on this 10-mile loop trail. Five miles of trail were cleared by teams of FATRAC members and volunteers from the Bureau of Reclamation. This trail work helped keep the extremely popular Foresthill Divide Loop Trail clear for activities such as hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding.

The California State Park system relies on volunteer efforts to clear its trails and FATRAC currently provides the tools and volunteers to get these important services done. Special thanks to FATRAC for joining the Take Pride family with this project.



FATRAC members cleaning fields on the trail in northern California.

CITY SPOTLIGHT

Eugene, Oregon Hosts Stewart Woods Enhancement Project

In Eugene, Oregon, the Parks and Open Space Department hosted the Stewart Woods Enhancement project on August 20, 2005. Working in conjunction with the Stream Team, volunteers were invited out to help remove invasive species, such as teasel, ivy, and blackberries in preparation for the planting of native species in the fall and winter.

This was the first Take Pride volunteer event for the City of Eugene, a newly designated Take Pride in America City by Mayor Kitty Piercy.

Eugene, Oregon volunteers work to plant native species.



Utah Jr. Master Gardeners Receive Take Pride Garden Award

Utah Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. presented the Utah Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program with the Take Pride in America Garden Award on August 18, 2005, for their work in engaging youth in novel, "hands-on" group and individual learning experiences that promote a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and encourage service learning and leadership development.

From what started with humble beginnings four years ago, the JMG Utah program has grown to thirteen chapters statewide, provided training to adults who then become leaders for the youth groups, distributed resource trunks to ten different counties, and gave presentations to numerous individuals throughout the state. In 2004, sixty-seven youth, ages 8 to 12, participated in JMG programs.

The JMG team leaders in Utah are of Dave Francis, Loralie Cox, Dallas Holmes, Ralph Whitesides and Pauline Williams.



Utah Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. speaks with members of the Utah Jr. Master Gardener Program as he gives their award.

2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree Wrap Up Take Pride in America held prize drawings for participants at the Conservation/ Environment Area at the 2005 National Scout Jamboree in Caroline County, Virginia in late July. Fifty-one winners were drawn during the nine days from almost 6,300 passport cards dropped in the boxes at both ends of the C/EA Trail.

Special thanks to all our Take Pride Partners who generously donated items for the drawings: Bella Secrets, LLC of Haysville, Kansas; C. Forbes, Inc. of Richmond, Virginia; The Coleman Company, USA; KOA Campgrounds of America, Inc. ; U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation of Columbus, Ohio; American Recreation Coalition and Bud Pigeon of U.S. Sportsman Alliance.



Congressman John Shimkus presents the Congressional Take Pride Appreciation Award to the Fayette County Girl Scouts for their work at Camp Marill in Vandalia, Illinois

Illinois Girl Scouts Receive Award from Cong. Shimkus

On September 12, 2005 Congressman John Shimkus presented the Congressional Take Pride in America award to the Fayette County Girl Scouts for their work at Camp Marill in Vandalia, Illinois.

"I applaud the Girls Scouts for their hard work to make Camp Marill a safe and fun place," he said.

The Fayette County Girl Scouts improved the habitat of a very rural day camp. Large rocks were removed from a beach area; weeds and growth were cut; litter was picked up; and camp sites were improved, among many other improvements to this primitive campground.



Take Pride Schools Take Off- Come Aboard & Join the CREW!

New Take Pride Schools!

Hahira Middle School in Hahira, GA
Principal Kip McLeod

Carmel River School in Carmel, CA
Principal Jay Marden

Utica Elementary School in Utica, NY
Principal Pam Burns

Epiphany Cathedral School in Venice, FL
Principal Irene Lynch

Balaton Public School in Balaton, MN
Principal Dr. Don Swanjord

Oconomowoc Middle School in Oconomowoc, WI
Principal Christine Mass

Cornerstone High School in Galena, KS
Principal Tony Simmons

Walker Memorial Academy in Avon Park, FL
Principal William Farmer

Pershing Elementary School in Orlando, FL
Principal Linda K. Shear

The Take Pride Schools Program seeks to create a new generation of volunteers—the Take Pride in America CREW. What does it take for your school to join? Accomplish two projects every year on public lands (either by the whole school, a classroom, or club) and promote the message of Take Pride. It's that easy!

Schools are eligible for our National Awards, and if you send us your project photos and write-ups, you'll receive publicity if we use them for the Take Pride newsletter and website. Also, we'll send your school lots of cool stuff! A Take Pride School flag and bookmarks will be provided for your students to show their pride.

Visit www.TakePride.gov or call 202-208-5848 to learn more about the Take Pride Schools Program.

For Your Information

If you would like our Take Pride Volunteer Guides or plastic banners for your next event simply email us the quantity and we will send them to you. To view a copy of the Guide online visit http://www.takepride.info/volguide/doi_volguide.pdf

Please continue to send us your photos and write-ups of your Take Pride in America events! An event evaluation form can be found on the homepage of our website at www.TakePride.gov.

Email takepride@ios.doi.gov if you have information for our newsletter, or if you have questions.

Thank you...

Thanks to our contributors for this edition of "In Touch With Take Pride." Please keep sending us articles for future editions.

Sincerely,
Take Pride Staff

Welcome new TPIA staff!

Chris Martin joins Take Pride as our new intern. Chris is a native of Washington, DC and a recent graduate of Brigham-Young University.

Jenni Garrison is the new Associate Director of Media & Public Relations. Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, and a graduate from Auburn University. Jenni recently relocated from Palm Beach County, Florida.